

**CLAIMS**

1. A system for collaborative processing with distributed applications, comprising:

at least one application context in which an application is executed, the  
5 context including an application CGI for managing the application, and a  
communication interface on which application data is communicated as messages; and  
a messaging bus configured to communicate the messages for  
processing by the application.

10 2. The system of claim 1, further comprising at least one remote  
application that communicates messages to the application via the messaging bus.

3. The system of claim 1, further comprising a web server in  
communication with the application CGI.

15 4. The system of claim 3, wherein the application context includes  
an administration CGI in communication between the web server and the application  
CGI for receiving information about the application and providing a document for  
transmission by the web server.

20 5. The system of claim 1, further comprising at least one gateway  
context including a gateway CGI configured for maintaining two-way asynchronous  
communication between the messaging bus and a remote application through a  
firewall.

25 6. The system of claim 1, further comprising a messaging bus  
extension adapted for maintaining direct socket connections between the messaging  
bus and remote applications.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the messaging bus extension includes a multiplexer for multiplexing one or more direct socket connections to the messaging bus.

5 8. The system of claim 1, wherein the messaging bus is configured to communicate with one or more other messaging busses, and wherein each other messaging bus is resident on a remote host.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein the messaging bus is configured  
10 to communicate according to a multicast protocol.

10. The system of claim 1, wherein each application is configured to publish and subscribe message data with other applications via the messaging bus.

15 11. The system of claim 6, wherein the messaging bus extension is configured to publish and subscribe message data between applications.

12. The system of claim 1, wherein the messaging bus includes a filter for filtering the message data.

20 13. The system of claim 12, wherein the filter is configured to filter messages according to a filter criteria executed by each application.

14. The system of claim 4, wherein the administration CGI is  
25 configured to format application data retrieved from the application through the application CGI into presentation data that is readable by another application.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the presentation data is in a format that is readable by a web browser.

30

16. The system of claim 14, wherein the format of the presentation data is in HTML.

17. The system of claim 2, wherein the at least one remote application generates presentation data that is readable by another application.

18. The system of 17, wherein the presentation data is in a format that is readable by a web browser.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein the format of the presentation data is in HTML.

20. The system of claim 17, wherein the web browser is configured to read the presentation data.

15